



Astro News

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"Forging the shape of military space for the 21st century"

Los Angeles Air Force Base, Calif., Jan. 26, 2001

DMSP satellite launch delayed

By Capt. Colleen Lehne
Public Affairs

Two failed launch attempts over last weekend, in hindsight, may have saved the Defense Meteorological Satellite Program office here its \$350 million F-16 spacecraft.

Both launch attempts were missed because of a failed command to power up the satellite's signal conditioning unit on Saturday, followed by one of Titan II G-9's oxidizer valves registering in the "closed" position causing an automated count-down hold.

Resolution on both issues may have been possible had the launch team not been limited by a very tight 10-minute launch window.

However, as range officials were preparing for a third launch attempt, two more serious problems surfaced during the spacecraft monitoring period Sunday night. First, the gyros in the spacecraft inertial measurement unit dropped out of flight mode. Approximately 20 minutes later

the IMU AC and DC power supplies autonomously switched from primary to backup mode.

Had these problems occurred after launch, "spacecraft navigation would have been lost, and we would have lost the mission," said Col. Randy Odle, DMSP director.

"The [launch] team worked extremely well. It is not a reflection on the team that we didn't launch," he added.

Initial troubleshooting pointed to an interruption in the clock signal that the spacecraft provides the IMU. Because additional troubleshooting to identify the exact cause of the anomaly is impossible with the spacecraft inside the fairing, launch officials canceled the third launch attempt Tuesday.

Now they enter an investigation period to determine the root cause of the problems and how to fix them. Odle said the next launch attempt could occur no sooner than April, but more likely sometime later this summer.



Photo by Ed Ramirez

Defense Meteorological Satellite Program F-16 satellite.

With a little help from a friend



Photo by Shaad Madison

Members of the Los Angeles AFB mobility team assist each other to don gas masks and protective outerwear during chemical weapons warfare training Tuesday. The training was the latest held in preparation for an AFMC Inspector General inspection which gets underway Monday. The inspection will evaluate areas such as deployment line processing and proper wear and use of equipment during increased Mission-Oriented Protective Posture levels.

Air Force releases new retention report

RANDOLPH AFB, Texas (AFPC) — The Air Force Personnel Center began arming commanders for the retention battle when they sent out the first-ever Retention Status Report to Air Force leaders Jan. 10.

"The report was compiled to give commanders an overview of retention rates," said 2nd Lt. Marie Snipes, chief, AFPC

Retention Operations Office Snipes. "A number of comparisons can be made from the charts. Commanders can measure their reenlistment rates against the Air Force aggregate retention goals (55 percent for first term, and 75 percent for second term), against other bases' rates. These reports are another tool in the commander's retention tool

kit," she said. "Commanders and their Career Assistance Advisors can use the report to find out what the specific retention issues are at their base."

For more information on this retention report and local retention initiatives, contact Master Sgt. Martin Hamilton, Career Assistance Advisor, at 363-2153.

SMC/Los Angeles AFB welcomes the AFMC Inspector General

Chief's Corner

By Command Chief Master Sgt.
Don Cleveland

We conducted the Los Angeles AFB combined quarterly and annual awards ceremony yesterday. We gathered to recognize the accomplishments of Team Los Angeles. They are all winners and we can be proud of their many deeds. We can learn from the actions of winners. I did a search on Air Force Link at www.af.mil and found over 80 documents that referenced "winners." I read articles on retired General Horner, past commander of Space Command and winner of the Space Trophy, recipients of the Lance P. Sijan Air Force Leadership Awards and many more. One central attribute repeated itself in the articles — winners never give up. Winners refuse to give in when faced with challenges. Rather, they look for fresh opportunities to excel.

Winners take the path overlooked by others who tried to solve the problem but gave up after the first failure. Where would the strategic missile fleet be today if winners like General Schriever quit after the first launch failure? Where would we be if the Wright Brothers gave up after their first design failure? Winners look for reasons to succeed, not to quit.



As we undergo the AFMC Inspector General visit in the days ahead, I offer the following advice: Don't give up. Choose to be a winner. A positive attitude and an eye on success will motivate your SMC teammates to celebrate a victorious demonstration of our mission readiness. Lucky? No way! We are just damn good and it shows. Enjoy the fruits of being winners, we're in good company.

Lyles: 'Year of the Family' success lies with you

WRIGHT-PATTERSON AFB, Ohio (AFMCSN) – Gen. Lester Lyles has realigned the command's Year of the Family celebration to the calendar year versus the fiscal year.

Lyles signed a proclamation Jan. 9 signifying 2001 as AFMC's Year of the Family. Joining him were several military and civilian employees and their family members who make up the diverse AFMC Family.



Photo by Capt. Mike Kelly

Lyles signs proclamation that makes 2001 the 'Year of the Family'

"The YOFAM vision is to demonstrate leadership's interest and involvement in quality of life, and to improve the marketing of programs and activities already in existence," explained Niki Foor, AFMC's family matters chief. "We have developed broad-based quarterly themes using desirable community results as categories to help us reach these goals. These themes will help base organizations and agencies focus on activities and publicity that improve awareness of current programs."

Other areas YOFAM will address include:

- Safety, health and well

being: The degree to which members and families live free from violence and abuse; the extent to which they are able to move about in their environment free from intimidation or fear of physical or psychological harm; and the extent to which folks remain free from preventable health related

conditions and events.

- Family Adaptation: The degree to which families exercise prudent financial management and meet their financial obligations; remain invested and committed to one another; and successfully manage relationships as a family within the Air Force.

Los Angeles AFB hosts YOFAM event
Feb. 14 at The Club. Story, Page 10.

- Community Satisfaction: The degree to which families express pride in their communities; feel welcomed and treated fairly by citizens in the local community; find the community a desirable place to live and raise a family.
- Personal Preparedness: The extent to which Air Force members value and adhere to military traditions and institutional values; perform duties with professionalism, dedication, and competence; meet unit requirements; evidence commitment to the Air Force as an institution; and succeed in enlisting the support of their families in helping them meet their service responsibilities.

"We have provided an overview of the program and a game plan, and we pledge to address AFMC-wide community concerns at the headquarters level, but the success of YOFAM rests with you," Lyles said. "Many quality of life issues are local ones; your committed involvement in improving quality of life at the local level is crucial. Together, we can make a difference."

Action Line

The Action Line is your direct link to Col. Phil Parker, 61st Air Base Group commander. Its purpose is to make Los Angeles AFB a better place to live and work. If you have an issue that needs to be resolved, discuss it first with your supervisor or First Sergeant. Call the Action Line if you can't

Base Exchange – David Clore 640-0129
Base IG – Lt. Col. John Woodcock 363-0802
Chaplain – Lt. Col. Gary Garvey 363-1956
Civil Engineering – Lt. Col. William Saunders 363-0287
Commissary – Al Cherry 363-6140
Comm. Sqd. – Lt. Col. Lori South 363-0798
Equal Employment Opportunity Program Office – Leonard Gonzales 363-1565

find a solution through your chain of command. Your call will be recorded and, if you leave your name and number, you will get an answer to your question.



Equal Employment Opportunity Program Office –
TTY for hearing impaired 363-6862
Family Support Center – Tom Sanders 363-5365
Fraud, Waste and Abuse Hotline 363-2020
Housing – Randy Farley 363-8340
Logistics – Maj. Ronald Graham 363-0351
Medical – Col. Mark Wisniewski 363-5005
Mission Support – Lt. Col. Maureen Hurley 363-1230
Privacy Act/FOIA– Jesusa Cruz 363-2576
Public Affairs – Lt. Col. Robert Potter 363-0030
Security Forces – Maj. Lyle Cary 363-0032
Services – Gary Van Dusen 363-0430
Military Equal Opportunity Office –
Capt. Elizabeth Vallery 363-2806
TRICARE 363-0261
24-hour Crime Stop 363-2124
Legal Office – Col. Scott Bagley 363-0916
Area Defense Counsel – Capt. Art Kirkpatrick 363-6776

Astro News

Space and Missile Systems Center
Editorial Staff

Lt. Gen. Eugene Tattini	Commander
Lt. Col. Robert Potter	Director of Public Affairs
Peggy Hodge	Chief of Internal Information
Tim Dougherty	Editor
Capt. Colleen Lehne	Staff Writer
John Ryan	Staff Writer
2nd Lt. Annette Wells	Staff Writer
Master Sgt. Tim Helton	Staff Writer

Editorial policy

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Deadline for submissions is Friday, close of business, the week before publication. Articles should be sent via e-mail to the editor. The mailing address for photos is SMC/PAI, 2420 Vela Way, Suite 1467, El Segundo, Calif. 90245-4659.

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For advertising information or space reservations, call Gail at (661) 945-5634.

Submit news articles or photos to:
SMC.PA.ASTRONEWS@LOSANGELES.AF.MIL
OR
Call 363-0303 for more information.

Commanders Call

The first Commander's Call of 2001 with Lt. Gen. Eugene Tattini is scheduled for Feb. 6 in the Club Ballroom. The times for the various organizations are as follows:

8-9 a.m. – BC, HO, IG, IN, JA, PA, 61 ABG and CC command section.

9:30-10:30 a.m. – AD, AX, PK and XP.

11 a.m. - 12 p.m. – MT, MC, CZ and CW.

1:30-2:30 p.m. – CI, CL, FM, MV, SE, TL and XR.

Please be in the ballroom 10 minutes prior to your start time. In addition, everyone is invited to a social gathering with free food, music and games in the Area A mall from 12 - 2 p.m.

Hemp prohibited

A change to an Air Force Instruction prohibits the ingestion of products containing or derived from hemp seeds or hemp seed oil. This is an interim change and applies to all active duty Air Force members, members of the Air Force Reserve and Air National Guard. Failure to observe the prohibition is a violation of Article 92 of the Uniform Code of Military Justice. This policy clearly establishes that the prohibition extends to ingestion of products containing or products derived from either hemp seed or hemp seed oil.

TRICARE news

The TRICARE Family Member Dental Program administration recently changed over to dental contractor United Concordia. Effective immediately, Military Personnel Flight customer service will no longer accept new requests to be enrolled in the current TFMDFP or process new enrollment applications. The dental contractor is accepting new enrollment applications for dental coverage. Contact health benefits advisor Rosie Manning at 363-0261 for more information.

Airman's Attic

The Airman's Attic is a treasure trove of items for the use of active duty members in ranks E-5 and below. For more information, call the Family Support Center at 363-1121.

A powerful team effort



A Christmas grinch visited Fort MacArthur residents on Christmas Eve morning as they experienced an electrical power outage, putting a damper on planned holiday activities at 60 homes and some enlisted dormitories. Power was restored to all homes late Tuesday, Dec. 26. A hard working joint team made up of Los Angeles and Edwards AFB civil engineering officials, TiendTec contractors, Navy engineers and municipal electrical power engineers determined the cause of the failure and reestablished power to the affected areas. Pictured from the team are (front row):

Claude Lee (TiendTec), Rick Ramirez (Edwards AFB), Col. Phil Parker (61st ABG commander), Raymond North (TiendTec), Staff Sgt. Scott Silva (61st ABG/CE), John Aquino (TiendTec), Staff Sgt. Mike Jacobs (61st ABG/CE). (Back row) Airman First Class Ayanaw Hagos (Edwards AFB), Master Sgt. Tim James (Edwards AFB), Kenneth Vaughan (Edwards AFB), Lt. Col. Bill Saunders (61st ABG/CE), Tech. Sgt. George Cabico (Edwards AFB), Senior Airman Jon Bolding (Edwards AFB), Ron Guidry (TiendTec).

MILSATCOM gets new director

Christine Anderson, a member of the Senior Executive Service, recently became the program director for SMC's MILSATCOM Joint Program Office. She is responsible for integrated systems management of satellites, mission control systems and communication terminals for the Department of Defense space communication programs.

"I am extremely pleased to be assigned to the MILSATCOM Joint Program

Office. The JPO mission is critical to the Department of Defense and the Nation. We have a fantastic team and I am excited and honored to be part of it," Anderson said.

Anderson has served in a wide range of research and development positions, including Director, Space Vehicles, Air Force Research Laboratory; and Director, Space Technology, Air Force Phillips Laboratory.

Anderson established and chaired the Space Technology Alliance, a forum for increasing collaboration and leveraging of research and development activities across the government, industry and academia. The alliance is comprised of

eight government organizations: Air Force, Army, Navy, Ballistic Missile Defense Organization, Defense Advanced Research Projects Agency, Department of Energy, National Aeronautics and Space Administration and the National Reconnaissance Office.

Anderson is a member of the Board of Directors of the American Institute of Aeronautics and Astronautics. She is the recipient of the AIAA Von Braun Space Program Management Award, AIAA Software Engineering Award, Secretary of Defense Medal for Meritorious Civilian Service and is an AIAA Fellow.

Anderson was selected for senior executive service in 1996.



Anderson

She holds a Bachelor of Science degree from the University of Maryland and is a graduate of the Advanced Program Management Course, Defense Systems Management College, Fort Belvoir, Va.

Commissary scholarship deadline Feb. 15

FORT LEE, Va. — A February 15 deadline is fast approaching for students to apply for a new scholarship program funded by manufacturers and business partners of the commissary system. The

Scholarships for Military Children program offers college-bound or college-enrolled military children the opportunity to apply for \$1,500 scholarships. One scholarship per commissary location is

planned, dependent on the receipt of qualified applications at the location. The Defense Commissary Agency operates nearly 300 commissaries worldwide.

Completed applications

should be returned to the Los Angeles AFB commissary no later than Feb. 15. Applicants must have a 3.0 grade point average and write a short essay on "What Being a Military Dependent Means to Me." Applications are available at the Los Angeles AFB commissary or at www.commissaries.com.

Space Based Laser hits key milestone

By Maj. Arnold Streland
Space Based Laser Project Office

The Space-Based Laser Integrated Flight Experiment took another big step forward with the completion of Requirements Review #3 Dec. 5, 2000.

More than 170 participants from the SMC, the Ballistic Missile Defense Organization, the Air Force Space Command, Air Force Research Laboratory and the SBL-IFX Joint Venture contractor team attended the review at The Aerospace Corporation in Los Angeles.

RR3 was the last hurdle on the way to the SBL-IFX's first major program review, its System Requirements Review, planned for March 2001. SRR will culminate in the approval of the top-level system specifications for the IFX and cleared the way for the preliminary design of the system to move full speed ahead. The experiment is planned for launch in 2012.

"Our top priority right now is establishing the program's baseline," said SBL Program Director Col. Neil McCasland."

"Even though SBL is not a Major Defense Acquisition Program, the same discipline is expected of us. RR3 was a successful, productive step on the road to a solid baseline and I'm upbeat about what we'll find at SRR."

RR3 focused on the evolution of system requirements since the last review (Requirements Review #2), held June 21, 2000. Since RR2, the team has been studying ways to reduce overall risk in the program.

The effort to accomplish that was known internally as

the "Rebalance Study." The elements of the original balance included the need for an affordable funding profile, a meaningful technical demonstration and a timely schedule. During the study, the team looked at the key technical content of the program to identify areas of risk that did not directly contribute to the success of the experiment, as well as areas of risk that could adversely affect the experiment.

The team also studied recommendations from the recently completed High Energy Laser Affordability and Architecture Study, which provided insight into ways the IFX could help reduce the overall risk of developing an affordable future operational SBL system.

During RR3, participants were briefed by members of each System Engineering Integration Team and Integrated Product Team on the current status of requirements and products in their areas, as well as the final steps needed to reach SRR, including documentation. Each briefing included details on the current Point of Departure system design and the status of key trade studies.

The presentations focused on efforts to rigorously analyze and define IFX system requirements while looking for the least complex system configuration that would meet those requirements. Complexity is a relative term here, since the IFX represents one of the most complex integration challenges ever undertaken.

To the extent complexity can be reduced, it has the potential to reduce both risk and cost. One example is the primary mirror on the IFX space vehicle. After the Rebal-



Courtesy photo

Technicians from Team SBL IFX make adjustments to beam quality sensors on a test mirror as part of the ongoing SBL Integrated Flight Experiment Risk Reduction Program.

ance Study, the team moved away from a deployable mirror in favor of a monolith, which decreased the potential for on-orbit mechanical problems.

Work on deployable optics will continue as part of the program's effort to develop enabling technologies in support of a future operational system. The decision to use a monolithic mirror also helped eliminate some complexity from the beam control system by removing numerous components that would have been required to align the segments of a deployable mirror.

Another example of a technical trade took place within the laser payload element. In this case, some

power and range were traded in favor of increased laser fuel. The smaller gain generator also produced space and weight savings on the IFX space vehicle.

That trade provided significant risk reduction by allowing for greatly increased experiment run-time while on-orbit. Besides the new flexibility added to the lethal missile intercept, the increased run-time will also provide more opportunity for data gathering.

RR3 made clear the SBL-IFX Team's commitment to risk reduction — buying down risk at every stage of the program in order to best achieve the program's many technically challenging goals.

The SBL-IFX risk reduction plan was highlighted in an award-winning paper co-authored by members of the government's SBL project office and the Joint Venture. That paper was presented at the recent Risk Management 2000 seminar jointly hosted by SMC, the National Reconnaissance Office and NASA.

The focus for Team SBL-IFX in 2001 will be to make further progress on a very complex system design while also continuously looking for ways to reduce risk and ensure experiment success.

Achieving that difficult balance is the key to the program's long-term success.

Air Force expands enlisted commissioning program

MAXWELL AFB, Ala. (AFPN) — The Airman Education and Commissioning Program is expanding the number of authorized training slots for the program and the number of academic majors eligible for AECP consider-

ation. The number of manpower authorizations for the AECP will increase from 90 to 180 through fiscal 2004. AECP is the program active-duty enlisted airmen use to earn a commission in the Air Force and currently graduates about

30 airmen each year and selects another 30 to begin the program each year.

Starting with the April 2001 AECP board, the Air Force Reserve Officer Training Corps will begin selecting about 60 candidates per board. Selectees

should plan to begin the AECP program the following fall academic term.

The application deadline for this year's AECP is Feb. 15. Interested Los Angeles AFB students can call the base education office at 363-1388.

Helping our own

Volunteers prepare to give tax help

By Cleo Drysdale
Public Affairs

Do you look forward to preparing your income tax returns as eagerly as you anticipate a root canal? Help is at hand, and it's right here on base!

The SMC Staff Judge Advocate's office has the solution. They arranged for the Internal Revenue Service and the California Franchise Tax Board to bring their agents here and teach volunteers to prepare basic income tax returns for people at Los Angeles AFB. These volunteers, part of the IRS's Volunteer Income Tax Assistance program, can prepare Forms 1040, 1040A, 1040EZ and Schedules A and B. At the suggestion of last year's VITA volunteers, David Boschetto, an IRS expert in investments, presented a special session on the sale of stocks to the volunteers at Los Angeles AFB so

they can assist in preparing Schedule Ds.

This tax center, a program of the base legal office, will be located in building 120 and will open Feb. 1 as all W-2 forms should be mailed by Jan. 31. Appointments can be made by calling the Staff Judge Advocate's office at 363-0916. You have the choice of filing either paper forms or electronically. The volunteers are trained in using the electronic software and can complete this task for you in short order. While the tax center will be open until April 20, Capt. Peter Kang, an attorney with the Staff Judge Advocate's office, warns that Apr. 11 is the last day for filing electronically at Los Angeles AFB.

According to R. J. Hudson, an IRS agent, the VITA site will offer many choices:

– You may file Forms 1040, 1040A, 1040EZ and Schedules A and B.

– If you are eligible for a refund, you have the option of having it deposited directly into a checking or savings account, receiving a check or applying the refund to any estimated tax payments.

–If you owe, you can make payment (by April 16) by authorizing a direct debit from a checking or savings account, paying by credit card or by check or money order using Form 1040-V, Payment Voucher.

For questions or information, please call your organization's representative:

ADOM: Staff Sgt. Sandra Nilsen 336-4997.

Aerospace: Victor Christensen 336-3021.

AXD: Lorraine Lewis-Wilson 363-3148.

AXZ: Capt. Zahid Sulaiman 363-0293.



Photo by Bari Mathis

Los Angeles AFB tax volunteers attend a training course to learn how to complete tax forms. For tax assistance, contact your unit representative.

Base Tax Center: Capt. Peter Kang 363-6471. Linda Jeter 363-0916.

CIKC: 1st Lt. Alexander Basco 363-4155.

CIX: Capt. David Spencer 336-4110.

CL: 1st Lt. Tina Nguyen 363-0139.

CS: Chris White 363-3214.

CW: Capt. Troy Thompson 363-0132. 1st Lt. Michelle Brunswick 363-6285. 1st Lt. Bill Bridgemohan 363-1424. 1st Lt. Mike Broadway 363-6699. Diane Rabb 363-1145.

CZ: Clair Garcia 363-2761.

Det. 1, HQ AFSPC: Capt. Dan Weak 363-1147.

EIT: 2nd Lt. Star Longo 363-5526.

FM: 2nd Lt. Tyler Imbo 363-5591.

GPS: 1st Lt. Gerard DiManna 363-6370.

JA: Susan Bowman 363-0916.

MT: Sherman Gaza 363-5867.

PA: Cleo Drysdale 363-2582.

Retired Affairs: Jerome Ginsburg 363-0183.

TL: Capt. Steve Nunes 363-8806.

VITA: Juanita Rendon 363-6471. Robert Lay 363-6471.

XR: Capt. Eric Frisco 363-3662.

61 MDS: Capt. Edna Walker 363-1251.

61 MSS: Master Sgt. Jean Barrett 363-3689. Capt. Mike Daniel 363-6870. 2nd Lt. Vincent Deno 363-5687.

Leading LA

Tech. Sgt. John Downs

... is the Noncommissioned Officer in Charge of medical logistics administration for the 61st Medical Squadron. He has been at the Los Angeles AFB for nearly 5 of his 19 years in the Air Force.

His job is to ensure information from Air Force Medical Logistics Office is disseminated throughout his work section. He also performs quality control and validation of documentation and tracks the accountability of medical equipment.

“My job is important because medical logistics requires efficient and effective documentation management to ensure that requirements, receipts and issues are processed properly. This keeps the medical supplies flowing, enabling the 61st Medical Squadron to provide the highest quality of patient care,” he said.

Downs has recently joined a very elite group – Air Force enlisted personnel with Masters

degrees. “I recently completed the requirements for a Masters in Business Administration from the University of Phoenix. I did the entire degree on the Internet, which allowed me to work the requirements into my schedule. Although it was very challenging the experience of doing the degree online was great. I’d highly recommend the program,” Downs said.

The Dayton, Ohio, native already holds an associate’s degree from the Community College of the Air Force and a Bachelor of Science in Healthcare Management, Southern Illinois University.

Now that Downs is done with school, at least for a little



while, he could be found at home near March ARB either reading, following the news or working on his computer.

He’s also a big supporter of the Los Angeles AFB Rideshare program, which he has been using for the last several years to survive the long commute.

“The Rideshare program is awesome,” Downs said.

Congratulations

The SMC Senior Civilian Advisory Group congratulates the following personnel on their selection as 4th quarter and calendar year 2000 annual winners in their organizations:

Admin Support Level

– 4th Quarter: Lina Litonjua (MT), Vernissa McLeod (CW), Delia Ortiz (PK), LaVivian Robinson (TL), Kelly Rusticelli (61ABG), Elizabeth Tua’au (CI), Nathaly Santin (JA), LaVerne Williams (CL)

– Annual: Michelle Castleman (61ABG), Marzella Colter (XR), Jeraline Louis (MT), Vernissa McLeod (CW), Della Ortiz (PK), LaVerne Williams (CL), Lloyd Wills (CZ)

Junior Level

– 4th Quarter: Lisa Caracoza (61SFS), Mary Dew (MT), Tamara Jones (PK), Rosalinda Meza-Perez (CL), Dorothy Mehta (MC)

– Annual: Allison Flanagan (CW), Karen Ho (MV), Scot Kowalski (61SFS), Rosie Manning (61MDS), Wendy Marshall (CZ), Remona McNelton (TL), Dorothy Mehta (MC), Rosalinda Meza-Perez (CL), Mary Smith (CI), Marta Villa (XR), Sherryll Williams (JA)

Mid-Level

– 4th Quarter: Cathy Butler (CL), Gerald Crafton (AD), William Githens (MC), Thomas Huynh (AX), Rafael Martinez (CW), Daniel

McGilvray (MT), Dennis Nyman (61MSS), Sally Petersen (CI), Tanya Schoon (CZ), Arthur Welton (TL)

– Annual: William Desmond (MC), Juanita Edwards (MT), Sarah Handy (CL), Rafael Martinez (CW), Daniel McGilvray (MT), Sally Petersen (CI), Arthur Welton (TL)

Civilian promotions

The following civilians were recently promoted or selected to a higher graded position: Daniel Althan, Renee Berry, Patricia Boatman, Andrew Clark, Naomi Dejesa, Melissa Duong, Ruby Hawkins, Mary Hughes, Wayne Hundy, Barbara Manalili, Joyce Moseley, Shelia Pearson, Edwin Perez, Shanika Richardson, Yvette Rico, Roberto Saldana, Bertha Skinner, Stephen Spoutz, and Sharon Willis.

Military promotions

The following captains were recently selected for promotion to major: Jennifer Moore (AD), Troy Vancaster (AD), Lynn Reise (AX), Matthew Regner (CL), Judd Powell (CW), Wilmer Jackson (CZ), Steven Rajotte (CZ), Donald Conroy (Det. 11), Eric Ferguson (Det. 11), Timothy Karmondy (Det. 11), Daniel McCutchon (MT), John Whisenant (MT), Robert Erickson (MV), Kristine Shaffer-Mellor (NPOESS), Gary Mauss (TE), Harold Jordon (XR), Andrew Sackett (PK).

Los Angeles Sparks bring game to base

Sparks coach Michael Cooper and forward DeLisha Milton traded skills with the Los Angeles AFB Honor Guard Jan. 17. Cooper and Milton showed off some basketball moves while the honor guard explained how to properly respect the American flag. Clockwise from right: Rochelle Grate, left, and Jancy Foster, show their Sparks spirit. Cooper jumps into a pickup basketball game with Steven Jones and Sheri Benator at the fitness center. A large group of fans welcomed the team. Staff Sgt. Joe Streets, the NCOIC of the Los Angeles AFB Honor Guard, shows Milton how to adjust the flag harness. 61st ABG commander Col. Phil Parker greets Cooper and Milton.



Photos by Joe Juarez

Dynamic speaker highlights chapel ‘Year of the Family’ event Feb. 14

By Chaplain Maj. James Walker
Base Chapel

In support of the Year of the Family and for the benefit of our SMC community, the Base Chapel will host a luncheon with renowned guest speaker Patrick Cleburne McClary, III “Clebe,” and his wife Deanna. The luncheon starts at noon on Feb. 14 at The Club. The chapel is also featuring the McClarys at a Valentine’s Social on the same day at 6:30 p.m. at the Cabrillo Marina Plaza in San Pedro.

Clebe McClary is the author of the book, “Living Proof,” and one of the most outstanding motivational speakers in the country. He is a well-respected member of the National Speakers Association having spoken in all 50 states and 29 countries internationally.

As a Marine first lieutenant in Vietnam, McClary survived injuries resulting in the loss of

an eye and an arm. He endured 34 reconstructive surgeries and almost three years of hospitalization on his way to recovery. He is the recipient of numerous awards and honors including three Purple Hearts, the Silver Star and the Bronze Star. McClary is a true hero. As his close friend Coach Dan Reeves of the Atlanta Falcons has said many times, “Once you have heard Clebe McClary speak, your life will never be the same, only better!” Tom Landry, former Head Coach of the Dallas Cowboys said, “Clebe McClary represents all that is good in America. His tremendous courage is an inspiration to all who have heard his story. I am privileged to know him and call him my friend.”

Clebe’s wife Deanna brings a presentation of inspiration and makes the McClary package complete. As the author of the book, “Commitment to Love” and a featured guest of Focus on the Family

and the 700 Club, she is a highly sought after guest speaker. She is a recording artist whose works include the Dove Award-nominated album, “Sincerely, Deanna.” Her message goes to the heart of the family and marital relationships. You will be inspired!

The chapel is making the luncheon free to a maximum of 200 respondents on a “first-come” basis. The first 200 to respond must secure their reservation by picking up a ticket at the Base Chapel office, Building 219, Suite 1901. When picking up your ticket, \$5 will be solicited but then returned to you at the luncheon. The \$5 is non-refundable to those failing to attend.

The Valentine social features the McClarys and is open to all. Heavy hors d’oeuvres will be served and those planning to attend the social must RSVP to 363-1956.

This is a tremendous opportunity for you, your staff



Courtesy photo

McClary speaks at The Club Feb. 14 at ‘Year of the Family’ event.

and the whole SMC community. Luncheon tickets will go fast and interested persons

should not delay. For further information, call the chaplain’s office at 363-1956.

Dollars and Sense

Bank of America plans to cancel past due government travel cards

AFPN – Bank of America is saying “enough is enough” and taking action on delinquent government travel cardholders, terminating those accounts with balances more than 120 days past due.

“Since the government travel card program was implemented in October 1998, the bank has written off about \$8 million in bad debt owed by Air Force members,” said Col. Greg Morgan, director, accounting, banking and comptroller support at the air staff.

“They (BOA) have been losing about \$250,000 a month – that’s the amount that Air Force members owe and never pay,” he said. “The bank has been taking this loss but has decided to uphold the contract terms and exercise their option to terminate those delinquent accounts.”

Morgan said the number of Air Force members who have

accounts written off total less than 2 percent of the force’s active cardholders, but the impact in terms of members’ financial reputation and to the service is much higher.

“We cannot stress enough that people need to take responsibility for their financial obligations. That’s the bottom line,” Morgan said. “Your financial reputation is critical – it can either help you or hurt you.”

Morgan said it shouldn’t be a surprise to those whose cards are being terminated. “The bank has notified people about past due balances, but they are no longer going to be lenient.” They intend to suspend accounts at 60 days, cancel accounts at 120 days and report to credit bureaus at 181 days if the card balance is still unpaid.

For more information on the government travel card, contact finance at 363-1534.

IDEA program hits the mall



Photo by Teri Mathis

Beverly Bone stands behind an IDEA program display Jan. 19 as she explains how the Innovative Development through Employee Awareness program can mean cash in your pocket. Bone explained that intangible ideas that are adopted through the program are worth a cash award of \$200. However, for accepted ideas that show an actual bottom line savings of government dollars, the cash award can be a percentage of the first year’s actual cash savings. “Even if your idea isn’t accepted by the program, I have some great gifts for anyone who brings me an idea,” she said. For more information on this program, call 363-CASH.

Health and fitness: *Getting in shape is your business*

By Staff Sgt. Alonzo Jones
Health and Wellness Center

If you haven't felt it, there is a push for fitness base wide. The slogan "Health and Fitness – it's your business" is our battle cry. The Health and Wellness Center has issued a call to individual units to assist their people in adopting healthier styles of living and get in shape.

Like an H-bomb (Health Bomb) explosion, shock waves are being felt across the base. The bombing has been taking place for several months and no end is in sight. The Civil Engineering forces can be seen periodically running through various squadrons singing, "Who Let The Dogs Out."

These hard charging warriors are determined to stay on the battlefield of fitness. Civil Engineer Lt. Col. William Saunders and his deputy, Capt. Bo Bloomer, are leading the charge and would probably say, "Giving up is not an option."

Saunders and Bloomer began the fitness explosion in September to improve unit scores in physical fitness tests. A by-product has been increased unit cohesion and a more capable organization. During CE's training, 15 to 20 troops concentrate on the five basic areas of fitness — muscular, strength, muscular endurance, cardiovascular endurance, flexibility and body composition. This approach to fitness gives them an overall and

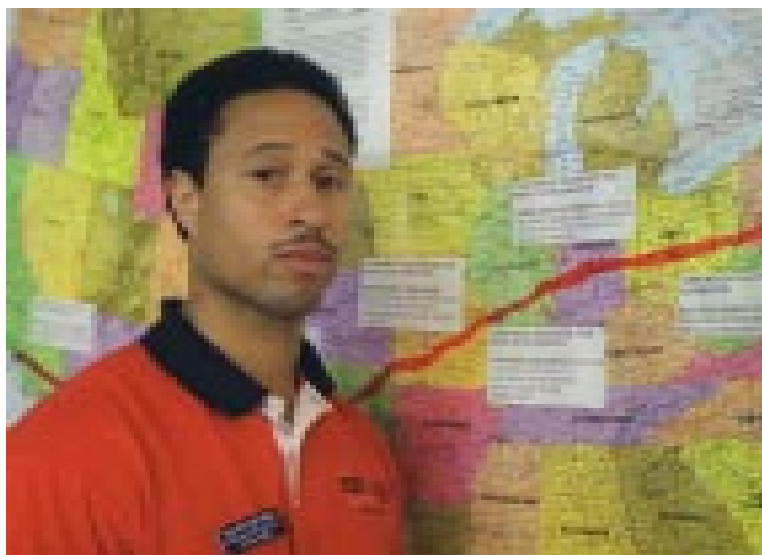


Photo by Joe Juarez

Tech. Sgt. William House has created a California and USA Trek to motivate runners, bikers and steppers to do more mileage. Participants log mileage when they use cardiovascular equipment and can earn prizes as they cross the state or the country. Call 363-6815 for more information.

effective approach to getting in shape.

Other fitness commandos have joined the fight as well. Financial Management, with the help of unit fitness program manager Senior Airman Amanda Hollman, has begun a program to encourage their members to workout three days a week. They are also gearing up for a fitness challenge.

It also appears that the H-Bombing has ignited a fitness fire at Security Forces. Maj. Lyle Cary, 61st SFS commander, has initiated a two-mile run for all military members every Thursday. Intelligence reports tell us that all military members engage in this activity whether they can run, walk, stagger or crawl. The civilian members are invited as well –

not just to cheer but to run as well as play basketball at the court behind Building 219. The Security Forces cagers can be found on the court until well after working hours.

All fitness regiments require teachers and coaches to inspire and motivate. One such coach is Maj. Michael Schlacter of SMCs Satellite and Launch Control Program Office. He has been racing in triathlons since 1993 and is using his sport to get others interested in fitness. He's recruited about ten individuals so far and every year he recruits more prospects. At the Hermosa Beach Triathlon last October several people from his office ran a triathlon for the first time and they all finished.

The moral to all of these stories is that, you can do it ... you only have to try! There is nothing to it, but to do it!

The Health and Wellness Center has a fitness professional who can help you develop a fitness program for yourself or your entire organization. For information or assistance, contact the HAWC at 363-6266.

Outdoor Recreation

Feb. 10. Big Bear Ski Trip. \$45 includes transportation, lift ticket and ski rental. \$40 if you have your own skis. The bus departs the Fort MacArthur Community Center at 5 a.m. and Outdoor Recreation at 6 a.m. The bus will return to Outdoor Recreation at 7:30 p.m. and to the Community Center at 8:30 p.m. A minimum of seven skiers need to sign up before Feb. 7 to make this trip a possibility. The maximum number of participants is 11.

Youth Center

“YOFAM” 2001 Year of the Family membership sign-up. Sign up now for before- and after-school programs, summer camps, family events, teen scene and much more. Call 363-8565 for information.

The Club

Jan. 28. Superbowl at the Club begins at 3 p.m. Club members are free, \$5 for non-members. Enjoy snacks and watch the Superbowl on the big screen TV. Many prizes to be won. Call 363-2230 for details.

Community Center

Jan. 28. Superbowl at the Harborview Lounge. Doors open at 1 p.m. Plenty of food, party favors and giveaways. This is a family friendly party as no alcohol will be allowed or sold. Call 363-8225 for information.

Snow Day in L.A.

The Community Center will be a winter wonderland on Feb. 9 as the Los Angeles AFB celebrates Snow Day. The snow falls at 4 p.m. There will be two sled ramps, a snowman building area and plenty of room for other snow fun. At 7 p.m., the movie Little Mermaid 2 will be shown in the Community Center ballroom for children and their parents. Also at 7 p.m., there will be a Sweetheart Dance for teens in the Garden Room.

Extended child care

The Child Development Center will implement a new child care initiative to extend the hours of child care to accommodate for extended duty hours. Extended duty is

Hit the links but keep your feet dry



Photo by Teri Mathis

Deone Barnes, document control and inventory supervisor for 61st ABG Supply, prepares to take a swing at the golf simulator located inside the new Outdoor Recreation Center, located inside the fitness center Building 242 in Area B. Outdoor Recreation hosts a 9-hole Golf Challenge on the simulator's

'Banff Springs' course in February. The best score for 9-holes on Banff Springs wins two hours of simulator time on any course. The cost for Banff Springs is \$10 per hour. Other courses are available for \$20 per hour. Call Outdoor Recreation at 363-2081 for more information or to reserve a virtual tee time.

defined as temporary shift change, unplanned longer duty day, unplanned weekend duty, short-term temporary additional duty if no other parent available, dual military or single parent deployment. The program will begin Feb 1. For more information contact Iris Alexander at 363-5950.

Family Child Care

The Seal Beach Naval Facility has openings in their Navy licensed family home day care homes. For more information, call Kathy Richards, at 562-626-7899.

Los Angeles AFB is striving to expand family child Care Services in homes of military and retired military members. If you are a spouse who lives either on or off base and are interested in becoming a licensed family child care provider, contact Hyechong Froschl at 363-8334 or stop by the Child Development Center

at Fort MacArthur, Building 31.

Providers: Amy Gonzalez can provide child care from 7 a.m. to 5 p.m., Mondays to Fridays, for children ages 3 and up on a full, part-time and drop-in basis. For more information, call 514-1938.

Johvon Tidwell can provide child care from 6 a.m. to 5 p.m., Mondays to Fridays for children ages 2 and up on a full, part time and drop-in basis. For more information, call 547-9762. The above providers are the only individuals authorized to provide child care in the Fort MacArthur, Pacific Heights and Pacific Crest areas.

RV storage

For your convenience, Los Angeles AFB offers two recreational vehicle storage facilities. They are located next to the FamCamp in Lawndale and at Fort MacArthur. Storage fees are

\$30 per month for RVs more than 23 feet and \$20 per month for RVs less than 23 feet long.

The recreational vehicle storage located at Fort MacArthur is open to active-duty military personnel residing in Los Angeles AFB military housing.

The Fitness Center

The Fitness Center offers one-on-one free individualized fitness programming. We have certified personal trainers that offer the following services: fitness assessments, personal fitness planning, fitness goal setting, programs to lower cholesterol, strength training, cardiovascular training, proper use of equipment and proper lifting techniques. Research has shown that exercise helps prevent many types of disease, helps people sleep better and relieves depression. Individual appointments can be made by

calling 363-6815, or you can ask at the front desk for a trainer during your workout.

Worship schedule

Roman Catholic: Sacrament of Reconciliation Saturdays at 4 p.m., Mass at 4:30 p.m. Mass at 9 a.m. Sundays. Continuing Christian Development is held in Building 37 at 10:15 a.m. Protestant: Sunday School at 9 a.m. Sundays in Building 37. General Protestant worship at 10:30 a.m. For more information, contact Chaplain Maj. Jim Walker at 363-6433. For information on baptisms, call Chaplain Maj. Randy Roberts at 363-1871.

Classes are available for anyone interested in becoming a Roman Catholic and receiving the Sacrament of Confirmation. Would you like to know more about the Catholic Faith? For more information, call Chaplain Maj. Randy Roberts at 363-1871.